

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY  
OREGON WING CIVIL AIR PATROL  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

NEWS RELEASE

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OREGON CIVIL AIR PATROL BEGINS HOMELAND SECURITY TRAINING

The Oregon Wing of the Civil Air Patrol will include training for possible Homeland Security missions as part of its annual search and rescue/disaster relief training exercise at its base at the Medford Airport on Sept 5-7th.

The training exercises, which will occur simultaneously at several locations, will be monitored by a United States Air Force evaluation team and will include specific mission scenarios that could be requested in support of Homeland Security operations.

"While CAP has not yet been specifically tasked with Homeland Security missions, the training will involve those types of situations that we would most likely be asked to perform in support of the Office of Homeland Security "said CAP spokesman, Thomas Traver, Public Affairs Officer for the Oregon CAP. "The CAP is the official civilian volunteer auxiliary of the United States Air Force and our aircraft, aircrews, communications facilities and personnel are uniquely qualified to perform a variety of missions that would be of benefit in a security support situation" he said.

During the recent Olympics in Utah, from the air, CAP aircrews were assisting in reporting on highway traffic and providing aerial video support to the Utah Olympic Public Safety Committee. The CAP also performed observation flights over critical infrastructures like public utilities and transmission lines as designated by security officials. Several flying missions were being conducted daily throughout the main games.

The Civil Air Patrol flies over 85% of all air search and rescue missions under the authorization of the AFRCC - Air Force Rescue Coordination Center - located at Langley, VA. The Oregon CAP has been activated by the AFRCC on 19 separate missions so far this year.

"When Sept 11th happened, we suddenly found ourselves flying the types of missions that we flew 60 years ago during WWII with the exception of looking for submarines off the Atlantic coast" said Traver. "We are trained, equipped and prepared to continue those types of missions today in support of our national security efforts."

For additional information on CAP and Homeland Security, please go to [www.cap.gov](http://www.cap.gov).

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